(2) to minimise the difficulty, will the Government be pleased to order the Public Works Department to have the necessary sign boards put up on all public roads and canals, as in Malabar and Travancore?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—

(1) Yes.

(2) Yes.

The Enamakkal Bund.

236. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is true that the Enamakkal bund sluices were opened in Makaram and water let out;

(b) was it so done with the knowledge and approval of any officer;

(c) which officer approved of this action;

(d) whether, in the view of the Government, his action has contributed to the draught;

(e) whether it is true that the *chals* and channels in the *Kole* lands are silted up;

(f) whether the Government proposes to have these silt cleared?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Chief Engineer.

(d) No.

(e) Yes.

(f) Yes. The Member is referred to the Diwan's Proceedings, dated 10th July 1926, P. No. 598 of 1101, Revenue Department, published at page 690, Part I of the Cochin Government Gazette, dated 26th Mithunam 1101.

The removal of liquor shops outside the Municipal area of Ernakulam.

237. Mr. K. T. Mathew.— Will the Government be pleased to inform (1) on whose representations or requests the liquor shops in the Ernakulam Town were removed from within the Municipality area of Ernakulam, and (2) how many such requests or representations were received by the Government before removing the liquor shops and (3) the dates of their receipt;

(b) the number of cases of illicit distillation or tapping or any other malpractices detected, gone to court, and punished

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

from the Ernakulam Town annually for five years (a) before and (b) after the removal of liquor shops from the Ernakulam Town;

(c) the date from which the liquor shops were removed from the Ernakulam Municipality area ;

(d) the names of other towns from which people or representatives of people have requested the Government for removing liquor shops from their respective towns, and whether the Government has sanctioned their request as in the case of Ernakulam, and if not, to give the reason, and if the reason asked for is that the result of the step taken in the Ernakulam Municipality has been nothing but satisfactory;

(e) whether the Government has reopened liquor shops in that town, and if the answer is in the negative, to give the reasons for not doing so ?

Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.—The Ernakulam Municipal Council.

(2) Two requests.

(3) 17—4—1923 and 12—6—1923

(b) Vide Appendix VII.

(c) 1st Chingam 1100.

(d) Requests for removal were received from Mattancheri, Trichur and Kunnamkulam. They were not granted. For reasons, vide answer to question 49(v) of the last budget session and that to question No. 62 of the legislative session.

(e) The shops have not been permitted to be reopened in the areas from which they were removed. Now that an Excise Committee has been appointed to suggest measures for improving the Excise administration of the State, the Government consider it desirable to know the recommendations of that body before they take any further action as regards the question of location of liquor shops in towns.

The prohibition of driving motor vehicles during the Trichur Pooram.

238. Mr. C. A. Ouseph. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any orders had been issued by the Commissioner of Police prohibiting the driving of cars or buses or other vehicles in any part of the Trichur Town on the Trichur Pooram day in Medam 1101;

(b) whether, after the issue of the order or orders referred to in (a) any, car or bus had been driven on the last Trichur Pooram day through the localities to which the prohibition applied; if so, who were the owners of the cars and buses which were so driven ?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Comptroller of Accounts	17—10—1101 and 18—10—1101	Ernakulam to Chittur.
	19—10—1101 and 20—10—1101	Chittur to Trichur and then to Irinjalakkuda.
	21—10—1101	Irinjalakkuda halt.
	22—10—1101	Irinjalakkuda to Ernakulam.
	T. A. drawn—Rs. 55-6-0.	
Superintendent of Anchal	22—10—1101	Ernakulam to Tattamangalam.
	23—10—1101	Halt.
	24—10—1101	Tattamangalam to Chittur and back
	25—10—1101	Tattamangalam to Ernakulam
	T. A. drawn—Rs. 39-4-0.	
District Magistrate	14—10—1101	Trichur to Chittur.
	15—10—1101	Halt at Chittur.
	16—10—1101	Casual leave.
	17—10—1101	Palghat to Trichur.
	T. A. drawn—Rs. 26-12-0.	

APPENDIX VII.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 237.)

Ernakulam Village. **Detection.**

Classification of offences	1095	1096	1097	1098	1099	1100	1101 up to Meenam
Illicit distillation	...	...	...	..	...	..	...
Possession of illicitly distilled spirit	...	...	2	1	1	...	2
Illicit tapping	2	2	2	4	7	2	2
Illicit transport	1	1	...	1	5	..	1
Illicit sale of liquor	1	...	3	...	5	7	7
Illicit possession of fermented toddy	2	...	5	4	2	2	6
Dilution	...	...	...	..	1	...	..
Other offences (such as breach of license condition, etc.)	4	2	1	1	1	...	1
Total ..	10	5	13	11	22	11	19

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Years	Disposed by					
	Department			Magistrate		Pending disposal
	Compounded	Released	Written off	Convicted	Acquitted	
1095	9	...	...	1		
1096	4	...	..	1		
1097	10	..	1	2		
1098	8	...	...	3	Nil	Nil
1099	19	..	...	3		
1100	11	...	..	...		
1101 up to Meenam	15	2	...	2		

Voting of Demands for Grants—(*cont*).

Demand XIV.—Accounts and Finance. Rs. 35—lakh.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—Sir, I rise to move that the Council may be pleased to grant a sum of Rs. 34,841 under "XIV, Accounts and Finance" for the year 1102.

I shall now speak a few words on the items on which I think some explanation may be necessary for the information of the Members.

First of all comes the temporary establishment. With a view to bring about a more efficient and more timely system of local audit, two divisions of local audit were created during the course of the year. Under the old system, the local audit was being conducted by an Assistant Comptroller with a few auditors. Much of the time of the staff which could have been utilised for audit was spent in transit, and it was found that the programme of audit for one year could not completely be gone through. It was also found that a detailed and complete system of audit was practically impossible under the system for want of time. Again, the long interval which lapsed between the time of making up of accounts by the offices inspected and of their audit was making the system rather inept and inefficacious. To remedy these defects and to make the local audit as efficient as possible for serving its useful purpose of effective check over the accounts

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